

JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM GOVERNOR JOHN D. CHERRY, JR. LT. GOVERNOR

January 2004

Dear Fellow Mentor:

My husband, Dan, and I are writing to encourage you to "re-up" as a mentor and to bring others into this spectacular experience, too. Four years ago when I was Michigan's Attorney General, I began an amazing journey with my mentee, Brittney. I don't know what your mentoring experience has been, but mine has been a roller coaster ride, of wonderful heights, tough valleys, and some grueling slow climbs. I am so proud that Brittney is still in school and has found some consistency in her life. Having Brittney spend the night on Christmas Eve enlarged our lives. She has been the gift that's kept on giving to us.

After being a big brother for four years in college, Dan has just begun a "lunch buddies" mentoring program with Chrissean at an elementary school in Lansing. He looks forward to Tuesdays when they eat lunch and just hang out together. He is totally ready to just be a dependable friend for Chrissean.

Dan and I have our own three children and we manage to stay busy. But according to research, we are like 99 percent of the people who mentor – we recommend mentoring to others. We *read* and *see* that there are children who need us. We *trust* we are making a difference in the lives of our mentees. And we *know* our lives and the lives of our own kids have been enriched by the experience. Dan is now leading the Mentor Michigan charge to recruit 10,000 mentors for, as you know, there are all kinds of children in need of a stable, caring adult.

So during January, National Mentoring Month, we are asking you to consider becoming a mentor again. And why not bring a friend along to mentor, too? You can call the mentoring organization you worked with before. Or, it is easy – no matter where you live – to find a place to mentor by visiting the Mentor Michigan web site at www.mentormichigan.org and clicking on "Be A Mentor." Or, you can call **1-800-VOLUNTEER**.

On behalf of a child out there who deserves a stable, caring adult in their life, we thank you for your serious consideration of this request!

Sincerely.

Jennifer M. Granholm

Governor

Daniel G. Mulhern First Gentleman